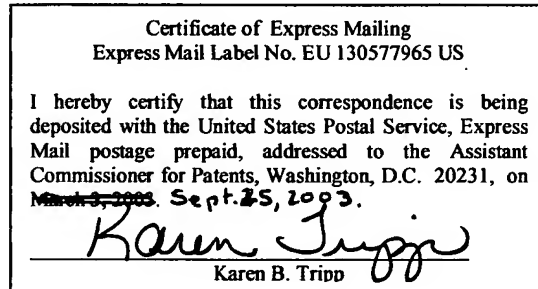


IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: )  
Frank Dean ) Examiner: To be Assigned  
Serial No.: To be Assigned ) Art Unit: To be Assigned  
Filed: To be Assigned )  
For: Chelation Compositions )

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231



**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Dear Sir:

Please amend this application as indicated below.

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

On page 1, at line 6, please insert in the first blank line—60/154,469—and in the second blank line—September 17, 1999, and before the period at the end of that only sentence under the heading “**Related Application**”, please insert the following:

—, and this patent application is a division of United States Patent Application No. 09/611,521, filed July 8, 2000—  
so that the sentence reads:

This patent application is based in part on U.S. Provisional Patent Application No. 60/254,469, filed September 17, 1999, and this patent application is a division of United States Patent Application No. 09/611,521, filed July 8, 2000.

A clean page 1 is attached.

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please delete claims 1, 6-11, 15, 19, 23, 27, 31, and 33, considered in the parent application, which was the subject of a restriction requirement. Please amend the remaining claims to read as follows: